

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176299
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 L-03 USIE-00
NSC-05 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JHMORTON:VSS
APPROVED BY EUR:GSVEST
EUR/SE:RCEWING
OSD/ISA:PEBARRINGER
C:RHOPPER
EUR/P:WGEHRON

-----103100 272304Z /75

O P 272241Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, US

SUBJECT: US-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT: PRESS
GUIDANCE

1. DEPT PRESS SPOKESMAN WILL VOLUNTEER FOLLOWING STATE-
MENT AT JULY 28 NOON BRIEFING:

BEGIN TEXT: EARLIER TODAY, IN ATHENS, REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE UNITED STATES AND GREECE INITIALED A NEW DEFENSE
COOPERATION AGREEMENT WHICH MODERNIZES OUR BILATERAL
SECURITY RELATIONSHIP BY BRINGING UP TO DATE A NUMBER OF
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OLDER MILITARY AGREEMENTS WITH GREECE, MANY OF THEM
DATING BACK TO THE EARLY 1950'S. THE DOCUMENTS WILL NOW
BE SUBMITTED AD REFERENDUM TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. NO
DATE HAS YET BEEN SET FOR A FORMAL SIGNING OF THE AGREE-
MENT.

A JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT THE COMPLETION OF THE INITIALING

WAS ISSUED IN ATHENS AND A COPY OF IT IS AVAILABLE IN THE NEWS OFFICE FOR THOSE INTERESTED. END TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO DEPT SPOKESMAN TO HANDLE ANY INQUIRIES ON SUBJECT OF INITIALING OF US-GREEK DCA:

Q: WHEN DID THESE NEGOTIATIONS ACTUALLY BEGIN?

A: THE US-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN IN FEBRUARY 1975.

Q: CAN YOU TELL US WHAT IS INVOLVED HERE?

A: THE GREEK AND AMERICAN HEADS OF DELEGATION HAVE INITIALED DOCUMENTS COVERING ALL PROVISIONS OF A NEW DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES. THESE TEXTS INCLUDE A BASIC DCA DOCUMENT AND SIX APPENDICES, FOUR OF WHICH COVER THE MAJOR INSTALLATIONS USED BY US FORCES IN GREECE AT SOUDA BAY, CRETE; IRAKLION, CRETE; NEA MAKRI; AND HELLENIKON. THE OTHER TWO APPENDICES RELATE TO COMMAND AND CONTROL AND STATUS OF FORCES.

Q: WILL GREECE RECEIVE MILITARY ASSISTANCE OR LOANS OF ANY KIND?

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A: THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR A FOUR-YEAR COMMITMENT TO GREECE OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TOTALING DOLLARS 700 MILLION, PART OF WHICH WILL BE GRANT AID. THIS COMMITMENT WILL BE DESIGNED TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS OF GREECE AND MEET ITS DEFENSE NEEDS IN PURSUIT OF NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE GOALS.

Q: ISN'T TURKEY SLATED TO RECEIVE A SIMILAR AMOUNT OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE OVER A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD?

A: UNDER THE TERMS OF THE TURKISH DCA, TURKEY WOULD RECEIVE ONE BILLION DOLLARS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE OVER A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD.

Q: HAS THE UNITED STATES GIVEN UP ANY INSTALLATIONS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT?

A: EARLY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS -- APRIL 1975 -- THE UNITED STATES AGREED TO TERMINATE HOMEPORTING IN GREECE. ASIDE FROM THAT ACTIVITY, THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT GIVEN UP THE USE OF ANY MILITARY INSTALLATION IN GREECE AS A RESULT OF THE DCA NEGOTIATIONS.

Q: HOW LONG IS THE NEW AGREEMENT TO RUN?

A: ONCE FORMALLY SIGNED, THE AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR FOUR YEARS AND THERE ARE PROVISIONS FOR TERMINATION BEFORE ITS EXPIRATION, AS WELL AS FOR ITS RENEWAL.

Q: THIS DOES NOT COVER NATO'S INTEREST IN GREECE DOES IT? ISN'T THAT THE SUBJECT OF OTHER NEGOTIATIONS?

A: THE DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT RELATES ONLY TO BILATERAL US FACILITIES IN GREECE. GREECE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO IS THE SUBJECT OF SEPARATE TALKS IN BRUSSELS BETWEEN GREECE AND THE OTHER NATO MEMBERS. THESE DIS-

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CUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING.

Q: SOME TIME AGO YOU SETTLED THE TURKISH-US DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT. ARE THEY ROUGHLY COMPARABLE? ANY COMPLAINTS FROM ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER THAT ONE OR THE OTHER RECEIVED A BETTER DEAL?

A: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO A COMPARISON OF THE TURKISH DCA AND THE GREEK AGREEMENT WHICH WAS INITIALED EARLIER TODAY IN ATHENS. EACH UNIT MUST STAND ON ITS OWN MERITS.

Q: WHAT ARE THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLANS FOR SEEKING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE GREEK DCA? WILL YOU NOW MOVE AHEAD WITH THE TURKISH DCA?

A: NO DATE HAS YET BEEN SET FOR THE FORMAL SIGNATURE OF THE GREEK AGREEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS PREMATURE TO GET INTO A DISCUSSION OF THE TIMING AND MECHANICS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL HANDLING OF THE GREEK DCA. WITH REGARD TO THE TURKISH AGREEMENT, THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION, NAMELY THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ENDORSES, IN PRINCIPLE, THE DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE US AND TURKEY AND THAT AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, IN LIGHT OF ALL THE RELEVANT FACTORS, WE SHALL ASK THE CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION ON THAT AGREEMENT.

Q: WHEN IS THE AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED FORMALLY AND WHAT PROCEDURE MUST BE FOLLOWED TO BRING IT INTO EFFECT IN BOTH COUNTRIES?

A: NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR A FORMAL SIGNING OF THE DCA. THE DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED AD REFERENDUM TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS FOR STUDY.

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Q: IS THE UNITED STATES SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS?

A: WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED
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WE BELIEVE THIS NEW AGREEMENT SIGNIFICANTLY STRENGTHENS
THE LONG-STANDING AND CLOSE SECURITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES.

Q: WILL TEXTS OF THE AGREEMENT BE AVAILABLE SOON?

A: THE DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE TWO GOVERN-
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FINAL REVIEW. THEREFORE, FINAL TEXTS OF THE AGREEMENT
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APPROVED BY: C: RFHOPPER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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FOR MATTHEW NIMETZ COUNSELOR DEPT OF STATE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 176299 ACTION ATHENS INFO ANKARA NATO
NICOSIA JULY 27.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 176299

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, PRESS RELEASES
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHMORTON:VSS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770269-0641
Format: TEL
From: STATE
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1730249
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT: PRESS GUIDANCE
TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/43fff662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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